STUDY GUIDE, GRADES K-3

Created as part of the Alliance Theatre Institute Dramaturgy by Students program by the 3rd grade Jr. Dramaturgs of:

Clairemont Elementary School &
The Museum School of Avondale Estates

Under the guidance of Kim Baran, Alliance Theatre Institute Teaching Artist

Special thanks to:

Emily Gardner and Elaine Oyzon-Mast of The Museum School of Avondale Estates
and Tom Seetoo of Clairemont Elementary
Dear Educators:

Welcome to the Alliance Theatre’s production of *The Wizard of Oz*. This study guide was created by the JR. DRAMATURGS of *The Museum School of Avondale Estates* and *Clairemont Elementary* for use by the educators and student audiences of the play. We hope this helps you prepare to see the play, and to reflect together afterward. Enjoy your trip down the Yellow Brick Road!

Suggested curriculum areas of study the play covers: standards in Theatre, Language Arts (Vocabulary Development, Grammar), Social Studies (American History, U.S. Geography), Science (Weather, Geography), Visual Arts/Folk Art

* See details on page 17

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Further research on the author of the source material, “The Wonderful Wizard of Oz” by L. Frank Baum, can be found in the Audience Guide for grades 4–8 on the Alliance Theatre Education Website.
ABOUT THE AUTHOR
L. Frank Baum—Author of The Wizard of Oz

L. Frank Baum was a writer of many children’s books and became very famous. He was born on May 15, 1856 in Chittenango, NY. He wrote 41 novels, 83 short stories, over 200 poems, and at least 42 scripts.

He also married Maud Gage and had 4 sons. He wrote The Wonderful Wizard of Oz in 1900, and then wrote 13 more books in the Oz series. He dedicated the first book in the series to his wife.

Sadly, Baum died on May 6, 1919 in Hollywood, CA. In 1939, his first book in the Oz series, The Wonderful Wizard of Oz, was made into a big movie starring Judy Garland. They shortened the name of the book and now everyone knows it as The Wizard of Oz.

ABOUT THE DIRECTOR
Rosemary Newcott—Director of The Wizard of Oz

An interview with ROSEMARY NEWCOTT, the Sally G. Tomlinson Artistic Director of Theatre for Youth and Families, by Vaishali, a 3rd grade Jr. Dramaturg at Clairemont Elementary in Decatur, GA.

Vaishali: WHAT INSPIRED YOU TO DO THIS PLAY? WAS THE STORY A FAVORITE WHEN YOU WERE A CHILD?

Rosemary: I was inspired to direct The Wizard of Oz again for a few reasons. Yes—the movie was one of my favorites as a child. As I grew older and read (and studied) stories for young people from many lands, I realized that The Wizard of Oz is truly an American classic—our very own folktale. For that reason, as I did once before, the design elements will be in the style of American folk art. This form is particularly dear to me, as my husband Tom is a folk artist named T-MARQ.

Vaishali: WHICH CHARACTER DO YOU FEEL MOST CONNECTED TO?

Rosemary: I think Glinda—because she is a teacher. She is there to help Dorothy, but only steps in when she thinks Dorothy cannot figure it out herself. That is the kind of teacher I try to be and I believe all theatre directors should consider themselves teachers as well.

Vaishali: I feel most connected to the character of Auntie Em. I have some of the same characteristics such as following the rules like she did when she had to give Toto away to Miss Gulch, even though she didn’t want to.

Vaishali: I think the main theme of The Wizard of Oz is to make friends and know that they are there to help you when things get difficult. WHAT DO YOU THINK IS THE MAIN THEME OF THE STORY OF THE WIZARD OF OZ?

Rosemary: We all have inside ourselves the power to achieve great things, but part of that “power” is understanding that we need to trust in the friendship of others to help us along the way.
Before the Play

**SUMMARY OF THE PLAY**

*The Wizard of Oz*

Once there was a girl named Dorothy who lived on a farm with her Auntie Em, Uncle Henry, and her dog, Toto. One day a tornado came and Dorothy was whisked away to the Land of Oz.

At first, Dorothy was very confused by the people she met. She wanted to go back home to Kansas and was told to go to the Emerald City to see the Wizard of Oz.

She started off on her journey on the Yellow Brick Road and along the way met some friends—Scarecrow, Tinman, and Lion—who all wanted help from the Wizard of Oz, too. During their journey, the Wicked Witch of the West tried to interfere and stop them.

- Will they make it to the Emerald City?
- Will the Wizard of Oz help them?
- How will Dorothy get back to Kansas?

See the play to find out!

**COMPARING WIZARDS**

The original book by L. Frank Baum, the movie, and the play have a lot in common, but some differences. The biggest difference between the original book by L. Frank Baum and both the movie and the play is there are more settings and characters in the book. For example, the book has characters of mice, bears that have tiger heads, tree stumps, and a sad clown. The additional settings in the book include a desert and the Land of Winkies. One more difference is that in the book, Dorothy gets silver shoes from the Good Witch of the North and in the play and movie, she receives Ruby Slippers from Glinda, the Good Witch of the North. But all the characters still have the same problems: Dorothy wants to go home, Scarecrow wants a brain, Tinman wants a heart, Lion wants courage, and they are all scared of the Wicked Witch of the West!
MEET THE CHARACTERS

Kansas

DOROTHY—Dorothy is a girl who lives with her Auntie Em and Uncle Henry on a farm in Kansas. She is as sweet as pie, never gives up, and is very smart. She is the main character of the play.

TOTO—Toto is a small dog that belongs to Dorothy. He is a sweet, brave dog, and very good at escaping. *(Toto’ by SOPHIE)*

AUNTIE EM—Auntie Em is a kind and very busy woman who takes care of Dorothy.

UNCLE HENRY—Uncle Henry is a farmer in Kansas. He is helpful and kind-hearted, and relies on Auntie Em to make decisions.

MISS GULCH—Miss Gulch is a woman who lives next to Dorothy’s farm in Kansas. She is a very mean lady, as sour as a lemon, and nothing but trouble. *(Miss Gulch’ by EVIE)*

HUNK, ZEKE, AND HICKORY—Farm hands on Uncle Henry and Auntie Em’s farm in Kansas. They help when Henry and Em can’t do everything they need to do.

The Land of Oz

GLINDA, THE GOOD WITCH OF THE NORTH—Glinda is a good witch who lives in the Land of Oz. She loves the Munchkins and is very sweet. She helps Dorothy on her journey to the Emerald City. *(Glinda’ by ILA)*

MUNCHKINS—The Munchkins are cute, short people who live in Munchkin Land in the Land of Oz. They sing more than enough and they show Dorothy the way to the Emerald City on the Yellow Brick Road.

WICKED WITCH OF THE WEST—The Wicked Witch is greedy and evil. She lives in a castle in Oz and really wants her sister’s ruby slippers that Dorothy is wearing.

SCARECROW—The Scarecrow is found by Dorothy in a corn field in the Land of Oz. He is brave, but scared of fire. He goes along with Dorothy to see the Wizard hoping to get a brain. *(The Scarecrow’ by AVA)*

TINMAN—The Tinman is made of metal and lives in the Land of Oz. He talks funny when he is rusty. He is helpful to Dorothy and goes with her to the Emerald City because he wants a heart from the Wizard of Oz. *(The Tinman by FRANKIE)*

THE LION—The Lion is friendly, and scared of most everything. He goes with Dorothy to the Wizard of Oz to ask for courage. *(The Lion’ by EVIE)*

WIZARD OF OZ—The Wizard of Oz is the First Wizard Deluxe of the Emerald City. He uses fancy words like ‘cataclysmic.’ He is interesting and mysterious.
Before the Play

**OZ VOCABULARY**

The Junior Dramaturgs selected words from the script that might need to be defined for younger audience members. They defined them in their own words. See below!

**BRAVE**
(adj) when you are afraid to do something but you do it anyway

**COWARD**
(n) a person who lacks courage and is scared of many things

**COWARDLY**
(adj) timid, weak and showing a lack of courage

*The lion is cowardly because he is afraid of everything.*

**EMERALD**
(n) a bright green gemstone
(adj) a color of green

**DAMAGE SUIT**
(n) a lawsuit that threatens to take money or possessions because a person has been hurt or suffered a loss

*Miss Gulch took away Toto and threatened to take away the Uncle Henry and Aunt Em’s farm in a damage suit because Toto bit her arm.*

**LIQUIDATE**
(v) to turn something solid into something liquid

**NERVE**
(n) courage to do something difficult or dangerous

**POPPIES**
(n) flowers that are bright colors of red or orange that are often associated with sleep

**SURRENDER**
(v) to give up power or control

**WICKED**
(adj) evil or morally bad

*The Witch of the West is called ‘wicked’ because she is evil.*

**WIZARD**
(n) a man who is believed to have magical powers or who practices magic or sorcery

Cowardly Lion by ANNALISE

The Emerald City Where the Wizard of Oz Lives by FRANKIE

Poppy field in the Land of Oz by JACK E.
Before the Play

MAKING CONNECTIONS

Folk Art in the Design of the Play

Folk Art is used in the design of the costumes and sets for the play *The Wizard of Oz* at the Alliance Theatre.

Folk Art is made by an untrained artist and is meant to represent an artist’s culture. Folk Art can be useful as well as beautiful and is not just art in a museum, but can be used with dancing, singing, poetry, and even food. Artists use any type of materials in Folk Art, for example tin cans and bottle caps.

Famous folk artists are Howard Finster, Nellie Mae Rowe, and Gregory Warmack (Mr. Imagination). You can find art by all of these artists and more in the *High Museum of Art* at the Woodruff Arts Center.

Which character’s costume do you think was inspired by *Horse* by Gregory Warmack?

See the play and find out!

Mason imagined the Tinman costume made of a tuna can. How else could the costumes and set of *The Wizard of Oz* use folk art in its design?

Use the costume template on page 13!
MAKING CONNECTIONS
Real-World Facts About the Play

FARMs IN KANSAS

The play begins on a farm in Kansas. Kansas farms grow wheat, corn, grain, soybeans, milo, and hay. Farming is very important in Kansas and it helps them make money. An average farm is about 747 acres.

TORNADOES

A tornado is a huge part of the plot in *The Wizard of Oz*.

- A tornado is a very mighty storm with strong winds.
- A tornado and a twister are the same thing.
- Most tornados in the United States happen in the middle part of the country (where Kansas is). This is called Tornado Alley.
- Kansas has the highest number of the most powerful tornados in the United States.
- Tornado season is early May to late-June.
- Tornadoes can be different sizes. A small tornado is called a dust devil.
- Tornadoes can be very destructive. It can tear down buildings or houses, can pick up cars, pull up and move trees, and injure people.
- A safe place to stay during a tornado is in a bathtub or the cellar.
AN INTERVIEW WITH MS. KIM

Ms. Kim Baran is the Alliance Theatre Institute teaching artist working with the Dramaturgy by Students program at The Museum School. She grew up in Kansas, so we interviewed her to find out more about this setting for the play.

IS IT ALL COUNTRY IN KANSAS, OR ARE THERE CITIES?

There are big cities near the Missouri border. The farms are mostly the rest. Topeka is the capital and is a medium-sized city. Once a big tornado hit Topeka. Kansas is very flat, no hills at all.

HOW HOT CAN IT GET IN KANSAS?

It can get very hot. It can get up to the 90s and there is very little shade. It also snows a lot in Kansas.

WHERE DO TORNADOES MOSTLY HIT?

In Tornado Alley.

(Note from the interviewers: Tornado Alley is a place in the middle of the United States with mostly flat land. Tornadoes often happen here. It starts in central Texas and goes all the way up to southern South Dakota. It goes through central Kansas.)

HOW OFTEN DO TORNADOES HAPPEN IN KANSAS?

There are about 6–7 tornadoes in a season.

WHEN YOU WERE 11 YEARS OLD, YOU SAW A TORNADO GO OVER YOUR HOUSE. HOW DOES IT FEEL TO BE IN A TORNADO?

It was scary, yet exciting. It was very windy, and then the sky turned almost yellow and the wind died down. Seeing the tornado go over my house felt weird and dangerous. My mom and I ran down to the cellar!

Dorothy and Toto in the Tornado by ELIZA (I’m glad that didn’t happen to me!” said MS. KIM)
QUESTIONS TO CONSIDER
BEFORE, DURING, AND AFTER THE PLAY

Before the Play

• Have you heard or read the story of *The Wizard of Oz*?
• Have you seen the movie?
• What do you think the play is about from reading the title?
• Where do you think the setting is?

During the Play

• Watch how the actors transform their bodies to become different characters throughout the play.
• Notice how the lighting affects the mood of the scenes.
• How do they transform the stage into the Land of Oz? What materials do you think they used?

After the Play

• Who was your favorite character and why?
• What was a moment from the play that you remember? Why was it memorable?
• Did any part make you laugh? Or scared? Which part and why?
• How did the actors transform their bodies to become different characters throughout the play?
• Was Dorothy really in the Land of Oz, or was it a dream?
• What is the difference between a movie and a play?
• Which character’s costume was inspired by the folk art titled Horse by Gregory Warmack? See page 7 for a picture of the art work.
After the Play

**REFLECTING ON THE THEMES OF THE WIZARD OF OZ**

Here are some of our ideas about themes of the play. Discuss these together with your class. What are other themes from the play?

- Family is what you make it.
- Believe in yourself.
- There’s no place like home.
- Teach valuable lessons with your heart.

**Morals for the Main Characters**

**DOROTHY**—Helping others is the best way to help yourself.

**TOTO**—When you can’t help, find help.

**SCARECROW**—Kindness is the best source of knowledge.

**TINMAN**—Don’t just help yourself, help each other.

**LION**—Instead of giving up, be brave.

**SUGGESTIONS FOR ADDITIONAL POST-PLAY ACTIVITIES**

- Dramatize your favorite and memorable scenes and characters from the play.
- Compare and contrast the play and the movie.
- Draw your favorite scenes or characters from the play.
- Create a scavenger hunt: follow the ‘Yellow Brick Road’ to clues based on characters in the play, leading to the final destination of the Emerald City (or maybe ‘home’).
- Draw a map of the Land of Oz. Just above is Michael’s idea for a map of Oz. What is yours?
After the Play

**REVIEW THE PLAY**

Color how many stars you give *The Wizard of Oz*.

What were your favorite parts and why? What would you add or change?

__________________________________________________________________________________

__________________________________________________________________________________

__________________________________________________________________________________

__________________________________________________________________________________

__________________________________________________________________________________

__________________________________________________________________________________

Draw a picture of your favorite part of the play:

Share your review with the Alliance Theatre! Send it to: rebecca.pogue@alliancetheatre.org.
After the Play

**DESIGN YOUR OWN COSTUME!**
How would you design the costume for your favorite character from *The Wizard of Oz*?
SCRAMBLE UP OZ
Unscramble the names of characters and settings from The Wizard of Oz.
Look on Page 5 for a list of characters.

CLUE: if the answer is 2 words or more, all the letters might be mixed up!

wrocrasc

ydtcialmere

ythrdoo

mlkhlaunncri

otto

ninmat

nloi

hitwcdeckwieht

algdni

elylrbokadriwo

Key on Page 17
ACROSS

2 magical person from Oz who lives in Emerald City
4 a place that produces crops, people live and work there
7 the state that Dorothy lives in
9 the character who is made of hay and wants a brain
11 a small dog that follows Dorothy
13 its a red and brown thing that can be used to build a house, in the play it is yellow

DOWN

1 a different word for twister
3 what the tinman wanted
5 what small people are called in Oz
6 a green valuable jewel and is the color of the city in Oz
8 the character who wanted courage
10 Dorothy's slippers are made of __________
12 a person with a magic broom that can fly

Key on Page 17
After the Play

WORD SEARCH

J H U D Z U G Q S M X K E X L W B R F U
W U J U O M G L N W P C V G V E M M E V
M W E O I R F L Y S V Y U O Q G P V U D
U K S J F C O B G U P B H B T A Y T F O
A V C S H I X T R Q X T U P D R X B X F
W N T D V R R O H R G M F N W U A H Z U
Q I G M J D U G E Y E N G A O O F E T Í
R A E E D B C T S Z P K C E Z C P U H J
U R B U H M S V D S G S İ V D U İ Q P X
M B U G S İ A Q O R S K L S S J V X K X
S E H P W D U T T D S R Q T H Z P Q Y H
F K W T G U O R N N O D İ A R J A X S F
T F U O M T S X U F P N O İ L P T R F H
S N İ K H C N U M A K V Y M N V İ İ C A
L P O P P İ E S N K A W Z W H E M C T S
M S G C T Z P R D R N H R D F İ T K E H
L İ O N T F T C A Z S Q G K A D N İ L G
Z E D H R D J R T C A M S P İ A S B U O
Q V Z R S V O İ Q L S S E L G Y T J B G

BRAIN
GLINDA
LION
SCARECROW

COURAGE
HEART
MUNCHKINS
TINMAN

DOROTHY
KANSAS
POPPIES
TOTO

Key on Page 17

The Wizard’s Hot Air Balloon by ABBY

THE WIZARD OF OZ

Study Guide
RESOURCES

Websites

- www.Dictionary.com
- www.Howtodrawanimals.net
- Www.Wichitahistory.org

Books


GEORGIA STANDARDS OF EXCELLENCE—LANGUAGE ARTS

ELAGSERL3—With prompting and support, identify characters, setting and major events in a story.

ELAGSERL3—Describe in depth a character, setting, or event in a story or drama, drawing on specific details in the text (e.g., a character’s thoughts, words, or actions).

ELAGSESL1—Prepare for and participate effectively in a range of conversations and collaborations with diverse partners, building on others’ ideas and expressing their own clearly and persuasively.

ELAGSESL2—Recount or describe key ideas or details from written texts read aloud or information presented orally or through other media.

GEORGIA STANDARDS OF EXCELLENCE—THEATRE

TA.RE.1—Engage actively and appropriately as an audience member.

TA.CN.1—Explore how theatre connects to life experience, careers, and other content.

Word Scramble Key

Scarecrow
Emerald City
Dorothy
Munchkin Land
Toto
Tinman
Lion
The Wicked Witch
Glinda
Yellow Brick Road

Crossword Puzzle Key

THE WIZARD OF OZ

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>TOTO</th>
<th>LAND</th>
<th>KANSAS</th>
<th>CH</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>BRICKS</td>
<td>HARNET</td>
<td>EMERSON</td>
<td>WIZARD</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SCARECROW</td>
<td>UN</td>
<td>EM</td>
<td>T</td>
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<tr>
<td>FARM</td>
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</tbody>
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Word Search Key

THE WIZARD OF OZ Study Guide

The End of the Wicked Witch of the East by CALEB

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